

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARAMA 00588 241956Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 OES-07 DLOS-09
/098 W

-----042494 242001Z /64

O 241737Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4270
INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GRASILIA
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY LONDTON
AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARAMARIBO 588

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR PBOR EFIS NS GY
SUBJ: SURINAM REPLIES TO GUYANA PROTEST

1. DURING CALL BY AMBASSADOR AND DUTCH AMBASSADOR MORNING
APRIL 24 TO MAKE PRESENTATION RE AIR HIJACKING (SEPTTEL)
PRIME MINISTER ARRON OUTLINED TO BOTH THE NOTE WHICH THE
GOVERNMENT OF SURINAM (GOS GAVE TO THE GUYANESE AMBASSADOR
APRIL 22 IN RESPONSE TO THE NOTE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF
GUYANA (GOG) APRIL 12.

2. ARRON SAID THAT THE MAIN POINTS OF THE GOG NOTE BROKE
DOWN INTO THREE PARTS:

A. ACCUSATION THAT THE SURINAM AUTHORITIES HAD ACTED OUT
OF THEIR AREA OF JURISDICTION, ARRESTED SIX GUYANESE BALATA
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARAMA 00588 241956Z

BLEEDERS AND TREATED THEM INHUMANELY. GOS
ANSWER WAS TO NOTE WITH SURPRISE THIS ACCUSATION AND
THE SPIRIT OF HOSTILITY EXPRESSED AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT
AND PEOPLE OF SURINAM. GOG ACCUSATION MUST HAVE BEEN
BASED ON INSUFFICIENT INFORMATION. GUYANESE WERE ARRESTED
ON SURINAMESE TERRITORY (ARRON CONFIRMED THIS MEANT
SURINAM SIDE OF THE CORANTIJN RIVER, NOT ON THE RIVER

ITSELF) FOR INFRACTIONS OF SURINAM LAW AND THERE WAS NEVER ANY QUESTION OF ANY INHUMANE TREATMENT.

B. GOG PROPOSED THAT THE WILLS DIALOG BE RESUMED AND THAT A GOS DELEGATION GO TO GEORGETOWN FOR THAT PURPOSE. GOS REPLIES THAT FULL AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED BETWEEN ARRON AND WILLS ON ALL POINTS AND IT IS THEREFORE SURPRISED THAT THE GOG TALKS ABOUT "CONTINUATION" OF THE TALKS. WHEN HE LEFT PARAMARIBO WILLS SAID THAT HE WOULD SEND BACK IMMEDIATELY A "HIGH OFFICIAL OF HIS MINISTRY" TO FORMALIZE WHAT HAD BEEN AGREED TO. GOS STANDS READY TO RECEIVE THIS "HIGH OFFICIAL."

C. GOG MADE CLAIMS ABOUT THE CORANTIJN RIVER, ACCUSED THE GOS OF HAVING SERIOUSLY DISTURBED THE FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND WARNED THE GOS THAT THE GOG WOULD CONSIDER BREAKING RELATIONS IF THIS CONTINUED AND THAT THE GOG WOULD USE ALL MEANS AT ITS DISPOSAL TO PROTECT AND DEFEND ITS RIGHTS. AT THE SAME TIME, THE GOG BELIEVED THAT THE PROBLEMS COULD BE SOLVED BY CONSULTATIONS.

IN REPLY THE GOS AGAIN MADE CLEAR ITS RIGHTS ON THE CORANTIJN RIVER (ARRON DID NOT SPECIFY THOSE RIGHTS) AND WOULD DEFEND AND PROTECT THOSE RIGHTS COMPLETELY. THE GOS GOES ON TO SAY HOWEVER, THAT THE POINTS RAISED BY THE GOG OARE COVERED BY ARTICLES 5 AND 6 OF THE CHAGUARAMAS

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PARAMA 00588 241956Z

AGREEMENT OF 1971. ARTICLE 5 ESTABLISHED A SPECIAL COMMITTEE CHARGED WITH CONTINUING THE BORDER TALKS BETWEEN THE UK AND THE NETHERLANDS WHICH HAD BEEN SUSPENDED IN 1966. UNDER ARTICLE 6, THE TWO GOVERNMENTS WERE TO SUBMIT TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE IN WRITING MATTERS WHICH WERE A SOURCE OF DISAGREEMENT REGARDING THE VOUNDARY AND THE COMMITTEE WAS TO ESTABLISH THE FACTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROCEDURES WHICH IT WAS TO DEVELOP. THE GOS INVITES THE GOG TO JOIN IT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN SUBMITTING THE POINT BROUGHT UP BY THE GOG TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

3. IN CONCLUDING, THE GOS NOTE EMPHASIZED THE WISH OF THE GOS TO MAINTAIN FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH THE GOG.

4. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, ARRON SAID THAT THE PRESENT SITUATION ON THE CORANTIJN RIVER APPEARS TO REFLECT RESTRAINT ON THE PART OF BOTH SIDES. HE IS NOT AWARE OF ANY FURTHER VIOLATIONS OF THE BORDER BY GUYANESE, AND, ON HIS PART, HE HAS INSTRUCTED THE POLICE AND MILITARY AUTHORITIES TO REPORT TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE TAKING ANY ACTION SHOULD A VIOLATION OCCUR. IN REPLY TO ANOTHER QUERY, ARRON SAID THAT THE GOS HAS INFORMATION THAT SOME

60-80 GUYANESE SOLDIERS HAVE BEEN STATIONED ON THE ROAD
NEAR SPRINGLANDS, ACROSS THE CORANTIJN FROM NICKERIE. AS
FAR AS THE GOS IS CONCERNED, IT HAS NOT INCREASED IT
POLICE OR MILITARY STRENGTH AT NICKERIE OR AMATOPO (WHERE
THE BALATA BLEEDERS WERE CAUGHT) ON THE
CORANTIJN, OR CARRIED OUT ANY OTHER TROOP CONCENTRATIONS,
BUT HAS TAKEN INTERNAL STEPS TO BE READY IF A MILITARY
CONFRONTATION SHOULD OCCUR.
ZURHELLEN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS, ARRESTS, BORDER INCIDENTS, RIVERS, TERRITORIAL WATERS VIOLATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PARAMA00588
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780175-0106
Format: TEL
From: PARAMARIBO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780424/aaaaatyy.tel
Line Count: 124
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 23c9c9a8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2870310
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SURINAM REPLIES TO GUYANA PROTEST
TAGS: PEPR, PBOR, EFIS, NS, GY
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/23c9c9a8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014